

**IMPROVING STUDENTS' WRITING SKILLS USING FOUR SQUARE
(AN ACTION RESEARCH AT FIRST YEAR OF SMP N 7 SURAKARTA
IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2012/ 2013)**



A Thesis

**Submitted to the Teacher Training and Education Faculty of Sebelas Maret
University to Fulfill One of the Requirements of Getting the Undergraduate
of Education in English**

**TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
SEBELAS MARET UNIVERSITY
SURAKARTA**

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
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Surakarta, July 2013


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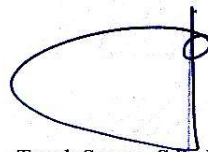
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ABSTRACT

Rika Christine Indriyati. **IMPROVING STUDENTS' WRITING SKILLS USING FOUR SQUARE (AN ACTION RESEARCH AT THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF SMP N 7 SURAKARTA IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2012/ 2013)**. Thesis, Surakarta: Teacher Training and Education Faculty. Sebelas Maret University, June 2013.

The purpose of this research is to know whether Four Square Writing method can improve students' writing skill and classroom situation.

The writer conducted the research from December 2012 to May 2013 in SMP N 7 Surakarta which consists of two cycles. In doing her research, she collected the data by using several techniques. For collecting qualitative data, the writer used questionnaires, conducting interviews, gathering documentary evidence, and systematic observation. Whereas for collecting quantitative data, she used students' score from several test. To crosscheck her data, she applied Triangulation Method as suggested by Altrichter. Meanwhile, to analyze the qualitative data, she used data reduction, presenting the data, and concluding the data. In addition, she compared the mean score of pre-test, post-test I, and post-test II.

The research result showed that Four Square Writing Method could improve students' writing skills and classroom condition. After applying Four Square Writing Method, students are able to: explore their ideas, organize it in paragraph form, apply correct grammar, choose appropriate vocabularies, and pay attention on how they apply mechanics. As the result, the mean score of post-test II is higher than post-test I and mean score post-test I is higher than pre-test. Students became active to participate in class activities; students became confident in expressing their ideas through writing; and students became active in sharing and collecting ideas. This was the prove of classroom improvement.

MOTTO

“Sebab tidak ada yang mustahil bagi Allah.”

Lukas 1:37

“Lakukanlah segala pekerjaanmu dalam kasih!”

2 Korintus 1:14

**“Serahkanlah hidupmu kepada Tuhan dan percayalah kepada-Nya,
dan Ia akan bertindak.”**

Mazmur 37:5

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DEDICATION



The writer dedicates this thesis to:

- 1. My beloved mom and father**
- 2. My beloved brothers and sisters**
- 3. My beloved boyfriend and his family**
- 4. My friends**

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Praise The Lord, Jesus Christ The Almighty Who always blesses the researcher in finishing her thesis as a partial requirements for the Undergraduate Degree of Education in English Department.

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The researcher realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect. She accepts gratefully every comment and suggestion. Hopefully, this thesis will be useful for the readers and English education improvement.



Surakarta, June 2013

Rika Christine Indriyati

TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE.....	i
PRONOUNCEMENT	ii
APPROVAL.....	iii
LEGITIMATION	iv
ABSTRACT.....	v
MOTTO	vi
DEDICATION	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	viii
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	x
LIST OF TABLE AND FIGURES	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
A. Background of the Study	1
B. Problem Statement.....	4
C. The Objectives of the Study	4
D. The Benefits of the Study	4
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF REFERENCE	
A. The Nature of the Writing.....	6
1. Definition of Writing Skills.....	6
2. Process of Writing	8
3. Purpose of Writing.....	9
B. Teaching Writing	11
1. The Importance of Teaching Writing	11
2. The Approach of Teaching Writing.....	13
C. Review of Four Square	18
1. The Definition of Four Square.....	18
2. The Usage of Four Square	19
D. Teaching writing using Four Square.....	20
E. Rationale <i>commit to user</i>	22

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Place and Time of Research	24
B. The Subject of the Research	24
C. The Method of the Research	25
D. The Procedure of Action Research	25
E. Technique of Collecting Data	28
F. Technique of Analyzing Data	32

CHAPTER IV THE RESULT OF STUDY

A. Research Background	34
B. The Process of Implementing Four Square	37
1. Conducting Pre-Test	37
2. Carrying First Cycle Activities	38
a) Planning	38
b) Acting	39
c) Observing	45
d) Reflection	49
3. Carrying Second Cycle Activities	50
1) Planning	50
2) Acting	50
3) Observing	53
4) Reflection	55
C. Research Finding and Discussion	57
1. Research Finding	57
2. Discussion	62

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION, AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion	66
B. Implication	67
C. Suggestion	68

BIBLIOGRAPHY	70
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APPENDICES	72
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LIST OF TABLE AND FIGURES

Table 2.1 Writing Point Skills.....	18
Figure 2.1 Four Square Visualization	20
Table 3.1 Research Timeline.....	24
Figure 3.1 Visualization Model of Action Research Procedure	26
Figure 3.2 Three Phase Observation Cycle.....	30
Figure 3.3 Triangulation Method	31
Table 4.1 Pre-observation Timeline.....	34
Table 4.2 Result of Pre-observation Questionnaire	35
Figure 4.1 Visualization of Students' Motivation and Ability.....	36
Table 4.3 Comparison of Mean Score in Pre-Test and Post-Test I.....	49
Table 4.4 Students' Score in Post-Test II Compared with Post-Test I	56
Table 4.5 Result of Second Questionnaire	57
Figure 4.2 Visualization of Students' Motivation and Ability.....	58
Figure 4.3 Visualization of Students' Writing Skills.....	60
Figure 4.4 Visualization of Students' Mean Score	61
Table 4.6 Students' Motivation Diagram.....	61
Figure 4.5 Diagram of Students' Ability	62

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Lesson Plan	73
Appendix 2. Field Notes	89
Appendix 3. Interview Note	110
Appendix 4. Questionnaire	116
Appendix 5. Writing Scoring Rubric	121
Appendix 6. Documentation	122
Appendix 7. Students' Worksheet	126
Appendix 8. Students' Score	136
Appendix 9. Legalization	139

